
they will lands and hold them, and want the same as now if they choose to do so, but, as the "unearned increment," the rental value in each year will go to the government instead of the paper title holder, no one will buy or hold lands at all unless he wants them for the usufruct. The conclusion is, that if it is a foregone conclusion that it can make no gain, and all mere paper title holders will make haste to dispose of their vacant lands or put them to use, for which purpose alone community is authorized to distribute lands to private parties, the same will be done as to some so completely the work of human folly—so far-reaching in the work of enslaving mankind, so completely the cause of the division of society into the idle and the enervated poor as that which belongs to private capitalists, the enormous accumulations of wealth, the vastness of lands from the growth of community. If any resigns, for there is and can be no consideration for such a bonus. It is simply to voluntarily place the lives and liberties of the people in the keeping of the idle holders or landlords, for the entire lives of the people will be indirectly dependent upon the fruits of the land. I shall not dilate upon the evil consequences of the system to be remedied by the single tax; for, after the powerful works of Mr. George and other writers in that branch of the subject, all that I need add is, that I wish to accentuate it, that no proper construction of human titles can convey to any holder more than the usufruct of lands, which is all that man or society has or ever can have to grant. And to take the value which accrues to all lands from the growth of community for the support of government in lieu of all other taxation, involves no sacrifice of private rights or violation of social obligations.

Harriet Martineau's Prediction.

Harriet Martineau, probably the greatest woman England has produced in this century in intellectual power, in her political action and as a writer of history, political economy, and philosophy, at the close of her autobiography, written when her writing days were well nigh over, says:

I now expect, as I have anticipated for many years, a war in Europe which may originate even this century, with occasional lulls, and I suppose the result must be, after a dreary chaotic interval, a discarding of the existing worn-out methods of government, and probably the establishment of society under a wholly new idea. Of course none but a prophet could be expected to declare such a thing, and I am not sure it would be rational, but it is not necessary here to foretell what it would not be or include. But all that I feel called on to say now, when I am not writing a political essay, is that the leading feature of any such radical change must be a deep and complete nullity and annihilation—certainly in regard to land, and probably in regard to much else. Before any effectual social renovation can take place, men must efface the abuses which have grown up out of the transition from the feudal to the more modern system of land tenure, and the absolute property; whereas in feudal times land was in a manner held in trust, inasmuch as every land-holder was charged with the substance of all who lived within its bounds. The old practice of man holding man as property is nearly exploded among civilized nations, even in the most barbarous of man holding the surface of the globe as property can not survive. The idea of this being a barbarism is now fairly formed, admitted and established among some of the best minds of the time; and the result is, as in all cases, ultimately secure.

The Profits of Privilege Over Labor.

Labor Commissioner Robinson, of Michigan, in his report for the current year, on this subject, says that in Michigan mine, it shows how very little of some products go to capital and labor, and how much to monopoly:

The Colby mine has a history worth recording. The owners paid \$1.25 per ton for the mine, and without expending a cent, they have secured and increased the privilege of taking out ore on a royalty of 40 cents per ton to the Colbys, who lease it to Morse & Co. for 52½¢ per ton royalty. Morse & Co. contracted with a Capt. Selwood to take the ore out and deliver it on the cars for the sum of \$7½¢ per ton. Capt. Selwood, an Englishman, not a capitalist who owned a steam shovel to dig the ore and put it on the cars (all that he had contracted with Morse & Co. to do) for the sum of 12½¢ cents per ton. This was in 1885, and the ore which was easily mined as gravel from a gravel pit, cost the owners the sum of 12½¢ on the cars. Out of this \$3.80 per ton the share of the owners of the mine was 40 cents, Colby's share 12½¢ cents, Capt. Selwood's share, after paying 12½¢ cents as above for the production, was 75 cents, and the remainder, or \$1.40 per ton, was divided between Morse & Co. and Capt. Selwood.

In that year, 1885, 84,312 tons was mined, which at \$2.80 per ton, brought as said, on the cars for transportation, the sum of \$236,073.60.

RECAPITULATION.

	\$236,073 60
84,312 tons, at \$2.80 per ton.....	236,073 60
Owners' royalty, at 40c. per ton.....	33,724 80
Colby's profit, at 12½¢ per ton.....	10,539 00
Capt. Selwood's share, at 12½¢ per ton.....	10,539 00
Capitalist's share for labor and capital used in production, at 12½¢ per ton.....	10,539 00
Total.....	\$236,073 60

To pay to land ownership over 98 per cent. of their product for the bare privilege of producing. Observe that every item here, except the last, is royalty, pure and simple. Not a penny is for the cost of plant, or the wages into the last item.—Sol F. Clark.

The Morbid Monopolies.

Land monopoly and land monopoly alone, drives the poor of Europe across the sea in the hope to find in "free America easy access to land." And the aristocrat of Europe has come to the same conclusion, that the poor, and the poor has laid his fatal hand upon American soil to the extent of millions of acres, and is prepared whenever the emergency comes, to introduce the scenes of Ireland. Landlordism, whether of foreign or domestic origin, "must go."—Springfield (Mo.) People's Voice.

The Sun, of Portland, Me., referring to the adoption of the single tax at Hyattsville, remarks that "the millionaires who own so much land have no use for it. Very true. But who ever heard of that kind of a millionaire?"

Prodigal sons are not always fed upon the fat of the land these days. If they were they would run off and come back home every day.—Galveston News.